

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to draw my colleagues' attention to largely overlooked yet significant accomplishments on the homeland security front.

Before the tragic events of September 11, the United States had a blood inventory of about 2 to 3 days. Critical blood shortages often meant cancellation of elective surgery and a national vulnerability to any sudden and widespread need for blood.

Today, thanks to hundreds of thousands who have donated blood, and to the American Red Cross working tirelessly to collect it, we have tripled our supply to a 10-day national inventory of liquid red cells. This means enough blood to treat the immediate needs of 50,000 critically injured patients; and as a physician, I understand just how important that is.

However, blood is a perishable commodity, and sustaining an adequate supply will require 25,000 donations a day. That is why it is critical to our homeland health security that we encourage the national habit of giving blood twice a year.

I hope all of us will encourage our friends and family to do so by calling 1-800-GIVE LIFE.

CALLING FOR A VOTE ON H.R. 1343, LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT OF 2001

(Ms. CARSON of Indiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, before September's explosions of hatred, we needed hate crimes legislation to help local jurisdictions across the country deal with crimes motivated by prejudice. After, as we experienced the hate-filled behavior of some of our own people, the need is underscored.

Since then, word has come to us at home and on the Hill of wanton attacks upon Americans of Arab and Muslim descent. In my hometown, young people fueled by hatred brutally attacked a young Hoosier Air Force veteran of Thai descent, intent upon vengeance.

Hatred is a thing bad in itself. Unchecked, it is our bitter enemy. When it powers violence, its reach is extended into the realm where terror is born, multiplying its victims.

202 of us have cosponsored H.R. 1343. I implore those who control the flow of business here to let us vote, Mr. Speaker, to underscore the determination of this House that hatred has no home in our land.

IT IS TIME FOR THE SENATE MAJORITY TO ACT

(Mr. WELDON of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, last month, prior to Thanksgiving, the House passed the Economic Security Recovery Act. The other body has yet to act on this important legislation.

The Associated Press recently quoted the Senate majority leader as saying an economic growth bill is "not as front burner an issue" as other important business.

I beg to differ. The House has done its work. We passed a solid bill to jumpstart America's economy, create jobs, and restore consumer confidence; and that spending puts more money in the pockets of working Americans.

Mr. Speaker, President Bush has asked the Congress to get to work and get something done on this important issue. So far the leaders in the Senate majority have failed to heed the call and are refusing to act on this legislation.

To ignore the plight of millions of Americans who are hurting right now because they are unemployed is wrong and irresponsible.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GUTKNECHT). The Chair would once again admonish Members that it is a violation of House rules to disparage action or inaction by the other body.

LET US PASS A REAL ECONOMIC STIMULUS PACKAGE WHICH HELPS HARD-WORKING AMERI- CANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I could not help but join my colleagues in asking that the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2001 be brought to the floor of the House immediately. There is a need for this Nation to stand up against hateful acts.

But I come this morning to speak about something that I think is overwhelming to many Americans. It is the season to be jolly, but not for all. Unemployment is at a 6-year high.

I want to join the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MOORE) in asking for an immediate freestanding bill to help the now 8 million unemployed Americans, families like those in my district, whose only breadwinner earned \$75,000. He took care of a family of eight. Now he earns zero because he has lost his job.

We need a bill now that extends unemployment insurance benefits, that provides help for health insurance coverage. We do not need the Republican large corporate tax cut of \$26 billion. Let us pass a real economic stimulus package that stimulates the economy for hard-working Americans who have now lost their jobs.

Let this truly be a season to be jolly for all of the children and hard-working Americans that have made this country great.

WE MUST PRIORITIZE SPENDING TO AVOID LEAVING A BIGGER DEBT FOR OUR CHILDREN

(Mr. SMITH of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, this is a great opportunity for me to talk about spending because one of this body's most capable chairmen of the Committee on Appropriations, BILL YOUNG, is here before us. I see a great challenge facing us next year. With revenues down and spending for the aftermath of Sept. 11 up, it is going to be a challenge to hold the line on a budget. Increasing our debt means that we are leaving a larger mortgage to our kids and our grandkids.

With any emergency, whether a business, or a family, or a government, we should start prioritizing. The family or business would reduce unnecessary spending so as to have money for the emergency.

Here in Washington we should look at some less-important expenditures of the Federal Government or those that can be delayed. Use the money saved for the important things Congress should do to help strengthen the economy and fight the war on terror.

Mr. Speaker, I would conclude by reporting that our current debt is \$5.879 trillion; our debt limit is \$5.95 trillion. If we do not prioritize, we are going to be increasing our debt and leaving a greater burden for our kids.

AMERICA IS FIRING THE START- ING GUN ON A NEW ARMS RACE

(Mr. MARKEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, this Administration has Arms Control Amnesia. The President has decided to unilaterally withdraw from the Anti-ballistic Missile Treaty. He and his administration do this without really fully understanding what the response from China will be.

In fact, if we decide that we are going to attempt to deploy a system, by the way, one on which we have already spent \$50 billion without any real success, then there is a very high probability that there will be a dramatic increase in Chinese expenditures on their missiles that will be pointed at the United States. We have already been through that arms race for generations. It is time for us to end that race.

The ostensible justification for pulling out, however, is September 11. That event was not caused by the absence of a missile defense; it is because we did not have a policy of thinking about